



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

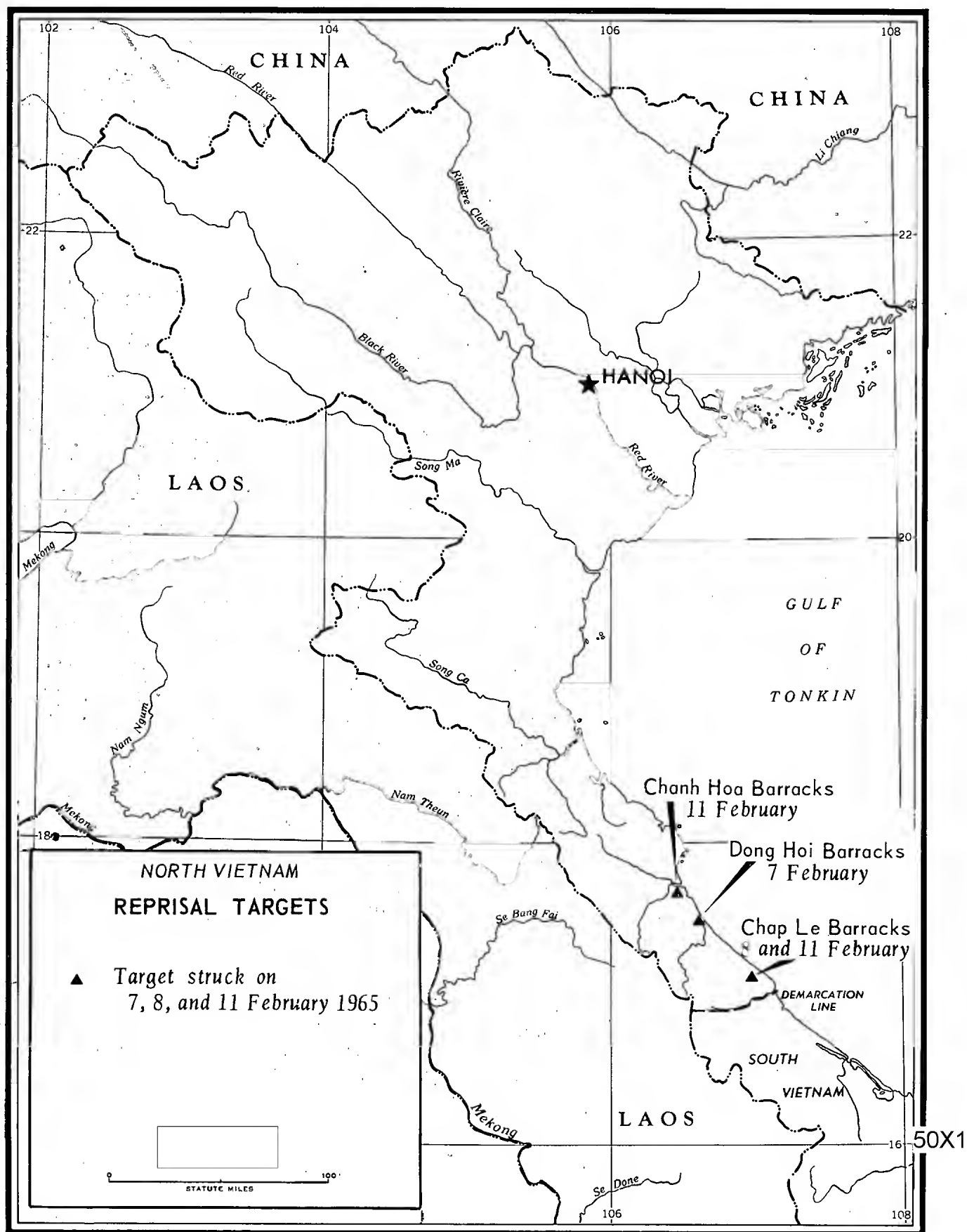
THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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11 FEBRUARY 1965

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DAILY BRIEF
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1. Vietnam.

No significant Soviet or Communist Chinese military reaction to this morning's retaliatory air strikes has been noted.

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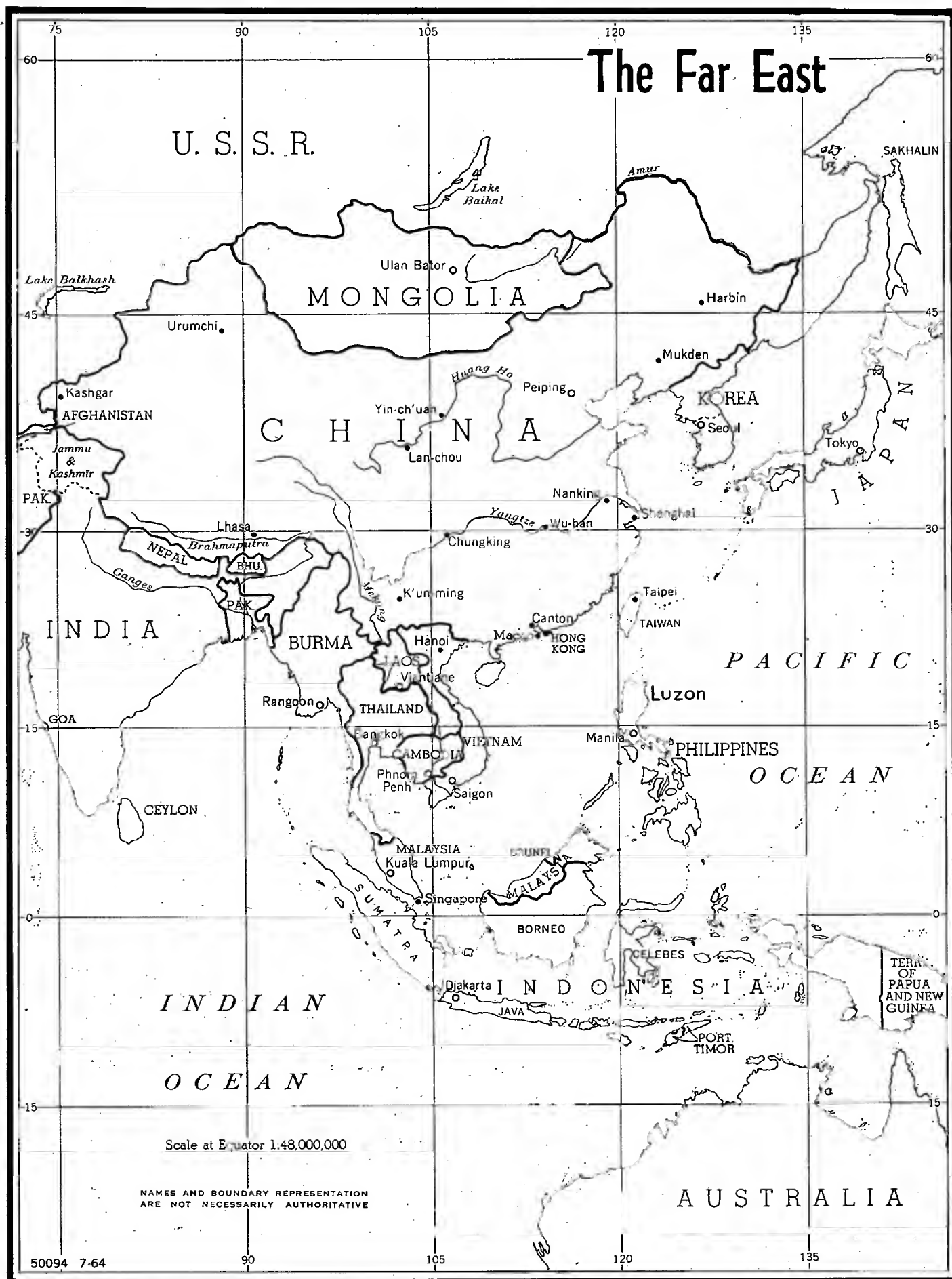
Pilot reports indicate that the Chanh Hoa target area, hit by US carrier planes, was seriously damaged. Pilots returning from the US - South Vietnamese strike at Chap Le barracks reported at least five buildings destroyed and several explosions at nearby antiaircraft installations. (See map.)

There have been no reports of significant Viet Cong attacks today. There is still no public announcement of a new government, suggesting continuing problems over the selection of a cabinet and, possibly, a premier.

2. Sudan

The conservatives believe they can pull off a bloodless coup against the Sudan's left-leaning cabinet this weekend. The Communists, however, may resist and provoke violent incidents.

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3. USSR

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Two Soviet Sigint ships are still active in the Far East, one off South Vietnam and another near Guam. (See map.)

4. Congo

The 600-man mercenary-government column en route from Stanleyville to Paulis has already lost over 50 men and several vehicles to rebel ambushes. This and other factors will probably delay even further the planned government offensive to close the northeastern Congo frontier. An analysis is at Annex.

5. Cyprus

Ankara says it has word that the Greek Cypriots plan to attack the Turkish Cypriots tomorrow. This is by no means confirmed, but tensions on the island have been rising recently. The Turks could be trying to set the stage for some military move of their own.

6. British Guiana

The visit this weekend of British Colonial Secretary Anthony Greenwood could touch off a wave of violence leading to bloody racial clashes. Former premier Jagan and his People's Progressive Party plan protests and strikes against the new government of Forbes Burnham to convince Greenwood that the colony is too unstable for independence while Jagan is out of office. His group is not openly advocating violence, but is encouraging it behind the scenes.

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ANNEX

The Military Situation
in Northeast Congo

Several factors hinder government operations in east and northeast Congo: the impact of outside help to the rebels, the temporary waning of mercenary strength, and Congolese Army morale problems.

Aid to the Rebels: Arms are still coming to the rebels from the east and they are showing up better-armed in recent attacks. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Recent rebel attacks have shown improved organization and reflect the training given the rebels outside the Congo. Algerian and Egyptian "volunteers" may be in the southern Sudan for eventual use in the Congo, but so far reports of their presence with the rebels during combat there have not been proved out. However, small Ugandan army detachments do appear to have accompanied the rebels, particularly in operations around Mahagi. Intercepts indicate that the Uganda Army command has made some tactical decisions for the rebels. The effect of this outside help will probably be felt increasingly.

Should the non-Communist parties in the Sudan succeed in their plans to put in a new government in Khartoum, there is some possibility that the movement of arms for the rebels through the Sudan might be cut off. However, the flow could be maintained by stepping up shipments going via the more cumbersome alternate routes through Tanzania and Uganda.

The Mercenaries: Those currently active are already heavily committed in the extended operations in the northeast Congo. As a result, there are few to move around as "fire brigades" to stiffen Congolese Army resistance to new rebel threats which may occur elsewhere. There have been morale and pay

problems, and the mercenaries have suffered battle losses. This may affect most immediately the planned offensive to the Sudanese border, which may have to be delayed until the mercenary strength at Paulis, depleted by dispatch of a detachment to assist the column en route from Stanleyville, can be built up.

Mercenary reinforcements may be slow in coming. Contrary to earlier reports, only 113 South Africans and Rhodesians, many of them inexperienced, are training at Kamina in Katanga. One hundred eighty more are now being sought in South Africa.

The Congolese Army: Congolese Army troops are performing about as usual, with much depending on the leadership. This may improve if the Belgians follow through and take a more active role now that financial negotiations in Brussels have ended successfully.

However, Congolese Army morale is low in many places and there have been sudden flare-ups of near mutiny. [REDACTED]

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